

Program Evaluation Survey

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THIS PROGRAM

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| 1. County | Ventura |
| 2. Program Name | South Oxnard Challenge Project |
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THE PROGRAM

9. Briefly describe interventions that will be used in this program.

"Corrections in Place" interventions which are specific to the particular needs of the youth/family. All youth/families will receive case managers and navigators (assistance, tracking and monitoring, and mentoring); youth/family specific interventions, which are the subject of a formal agreement, will include drug and alcohol programs, mental health services, job training, tutoring, and community service assignments.

10. Briefly describe, in general terms, the expected beneficial effects of the program (especially the benefits as they relate to what you are going to measure; e.g., if the primary dependent variable is "grade point average," then the goal would be to improve the grade point average.

Reduced delinquency (fewer arrests, recidivism for less serious offenses); increased accountability (improved rate of completion of restitution, improved rate of completion of probation, improved school/vocational attendance and grades, fewer expulsions and suspensions, improved rate of completion of community service, increased rate of compliance with terms of formal agreements); greater levels of community participation in the justice system; greater emphasis on interventions directed toward families; greater coordination among service providers (mental health, probation, etc.).

11. Name and briefly describe the type of research design that you intend to use to determine whether or not this program produces the desired outcomes.

Classic experimental design

12. Briefly describe the process evaluation research that you intend to conduct.

A qualitative case study of program development (committees created, hurdles crossed, steps in decision making, areas of support and areas of resistance, etc.), and a combined quantitative and qualitative analysis of program implementation (i.e., extent to which client received planned services).

COMPARISON GROUP

13. Will there be a comparison group?

Yes

14. If you answered 'no' to #13, how will the effectiveness of the program be evaluated?

NA

15. Will the treatment and comparison group subjects be randomly assigned from the same pool of subjects?

Yes

16. If you answered 'no' to #15, what kind of comparison group will you use?

NA

17. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning the comparison group subjects.

Random assignment from subjects who meet eligibility requirements.

18. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the comparison group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Residents of South Oxnard, referred by Probation (on formal or informal probation), aged 12-18; medium to high risk based on risk assessment instrument.

19. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for the comparison group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

Schools: grade point average, grade level, reading and math achievement scores, school attendance, suspensions and expulsions; Legal History: number of previous citations, number of previous referrals, seriousness of current offense, number of institutional placements for criminal behavior; Drug Use: history of drug abuse (types of drugs, pattern of use, age of onset); Family: family treatment needs, quality of family relationships, extent of child abuse, number of out of home placements; Peers: extent of gang involvement, number of prosocial friends; Service Delivery: days in program, number of service interventions, number of contacts with youth, family, community and victim.

20. Will the comparison group be matched to the treatment group in terms of any variables?

No

21. If you answered 'yes' to #20, list the matching variables that will be used.

NA

22. If you answered 'yes' to #20, briefly describe how the comparison group will be matched to the treatment group.

NA

23. If you answered 'no' to #20, briefly describe why you believe that the treatment and comparison groups will possess the necessary comparability.

Due to random assignment to treatment and control groups.

24. How many subjects will participate in the comparison group during the entire course of the program?

250

TREATMENT GROUP

25. Briefly describe the process for identifying and assigning treatment-group subjects.

Random assignment from subjects who meet eligibility requirements.

26. List the criteria for participation that must be met by the treatment group subjects (e.g., age, probation status, gender). Next to each, list the level of the variable that will be used for subject selection (e.g., age 12 or higher, ward of the probation department, males).

Residents of South Oxnard, referred by Probation (on formal or informal probation), aged 12-18, medium to high risk based on risk assessment instrument.

27. List any other independent variables that you will be collecting for treatment group (e.g., risk assessment score, legal history, grade point average, school attendance, drug use).

Schools: grade point average, grade level, reading and math achievement scores, school attendance, suspensions and expulsions; Legal History: number of previous citations, number of previous referrals, seriousness of current offense, number of institutional placements for criminal behavior; Drug Use: history of drug abuse (types of drugs, pattern of use, age of onset); Family: family treatment needs, quality of family relationships, extent of child abuse, number of out of home placements; Peers: extent of gang involvement, number of prosocial friends; Service Delivery: days in program, number of service interventions, number of contacts with youth, family, community and victim.

28. How many subjects will participate in the treatment evaluation research samples?

250

DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVENTIONS

29. List the interventions that only the treatment group will receive (interventions that are not received by the comparison group). Next to each intervention, state in measurable terms, the goals of the intervention. For example, a goal might be: "to improve reading level of program participants."

Development of agreed upon program plan; mental health - multi-systemic therapy intervention; 12-Step for teens; navigators; day reporting; multi-agency needs assessment and family conference; community-located multi-service center including probation, drug and alcohol, and mental health services; collaborative approach to assessment, service delivery and decision-making; citizen participation in juvenile justice in identifying local community problems and solutions; victim participation in developing restoration plans.

30. List the interventions that only the comparison group will receive (interventions that are not received by the treatment group).

Traditional probation. Those on informal probation are typically seen only once when they sign informal agreement. If successful in satisfying terms of agreement, case is closed. . Those on formal probation are typically seen approximately once a month. If placed on intensive supervision probation, will be seen approximately two or three times a month. Juveniles under age 14 who are placed on "early intervention" by Youth Services are seen by the probation officer one to three times a week. Regular probation youth who receive treatment are referred to other county agencies (e.g., Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Programs).

31. List the interventions that both the treatment and comparison groups will receive (i.e., in what ways, in terms of interventions, will the treatment and control subjects be treated in the same).

Initial risk assessment by VCCS agency.